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To: Microsoft ATR
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I along with many other members of the public have been harmed by the ever increasing number of software enabled services being bundled with the Windows desk-top operating system that has monopoly status. Having abused that power, why not strip them of much of it by forcing MSFT to offer a bare bones Windows OS to which the consumer can add service enabling software selected from a competitive marketplace. Given current arrangements if consumers wish to participate in an expanding array of software enabled services into the future , they will be given the choice of MSFT services unfairly advantaged by the wide distribution and the guaranteed interoperability association with the monopoly confers. The consuming public, given a ubiquitous bare bones OS could vote with its pocketbook on the value of additive software upgrades. Current monopolistic advantage unfairly limits the economic vitality of competing software enabled services. Innovation is hampered. Innovative services from MSFT bundled with, Windows 95,98,2000, XP while possibly desireable, derive support from and unfairly extend a monopoly into new areas. MSFT is able to roll out successive versions of its OS and find a market largely because of bundling new software enabled services. I and peers would be better served by a marketplace in which new software enabled services could be selected from vendors based on value rather than upon advantages derived from membership in a monopoly. To do otherwise merely repeats the browser transgression. Steve Krogh